

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
FOREST SERVICE
Forest Insect and Disease Management
P.O. Box 5895, Asheville, NC 28803

REPLY TO: 3400 Forest Insect and Disease Management
Report No. 79-1-19

May 11, 1979

SUBJECT: Visit to the Kincaid Recreation Area

TO: Frank Ferrarelli, Supervisor, Kisatchie NF



On April 26, Joyce Durdin and I visited the Kincaid recreation area (now under construction) in response to a request from Carl Linderman. The purpose of our visit was to identify trees of poor vigor and low survival potential. We also examined the area for conditions that would, as a result of construction, be detrimental to the overstory.

Generally, the hardwoods in the area are healthy. Some do exhibit basal wounds and decay--probably due to fires of the past.

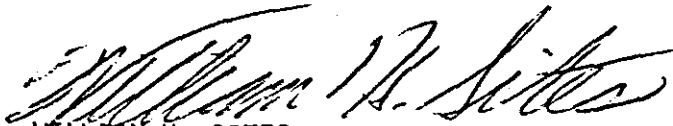
The most serious problem resulting from construction is the sediment buildup in many of the drainages. A considerable quantity of silt is washing from the road cuts, parking areas and other construction sites. On some locations this has already caused some of the hardwoods to decline, as evidenced by the production of water sprouts following top decline and dieback. Some of the pines in these same areas are declining as well, for the same reason. As a result, they have become infested with turpentine beetles. I feel certain that some of the pines in the drainages will eventually have to be removed. In the meantime, additional erosion and silt deposition should be slowed as much as possible. This can be done by providing water brakes when the soil has been exposed over large areas, such as the parking lots near the boat ramp. In addition, silt traps or dams can be placed in roadside ditches to slow water flow and trap sediment. Where and when possible, cut banks should also be seeded to grass.

Around the edge of the lake, near the boat ramp, a number of pines and oaks are declining as a result of water and/or grading. They will not recover and should be removed at the earliest convenient time. There are also some trees on the perimeter of the parking lot that suffered severe root and butt injury during the grading. They should be removed as well.

In the swimming area and at the proposed entrance and camping circle of loop C-1, there are a number of large pines. I suggested to Carl that any that suffer root injury during construction be removed. This will include essentially all pines in the swimming beach area and those that could reach the beach, if they fell. These trees are all over

mature and declining as evidenced by their size and age; high, thick-limbed crowns; and the presence of heart rot caused by the fungus Fomes pini. They will not withstand construction injuries, soil fill, or compaction from use by recreationists. They will decline rapidly and be prone to bark beetle attacks. Cutting this material during the peak of the growing season may attract more bark beetles. Therefore, these trees should be removed now or next winter, if possible. The further into the growing season, the greater the risk of precipitating new attacks. When the trees are removed, the slash should be scattered (rather than piled) to accelerate drying.

We plan to be in Louisiana again during the summer. If there are any additional questions, we will be glad to assist Carl with them.



WILLIAM H. SITES
Plant Pathologist

cc: Mr. Robert Stignani - RO, Recreation, Atlanta

Mr. Carl Linderman, Pineville, LA